

Griffith City Council – Noxious Weed – Management Plan



Alligator Weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)

Weed of National Significance



Class 2
Regionally
Controlled Weed
A Notifiable Weed



This plan is published in accordance with Order 30 (*made under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993*) and outlines requirements to control class (2) weeds by private occupiers of land in the Griffith City Council area.

Plan period:

This plan commences on 30th January 2015. Council reserves the right to review, revoke, vary or amend this plan at any time by publication of a revised control plan.

Obligations of landholders (Section 12, Noxious Weeds Act 1993).

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Prescribed Control Measures as per Weed Control Order no. 30 made under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993

Regionally Controlled Weed – **“The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant”.**

- The weed must be prevented from growing within 20 metres of a property boundary or watercourse.

Treat all weeds prior to seed set by:

- Application of a registered herbicide as per label.
- Or by physical or mechanical removal.

Individual Management Plans
drawn up in consultation with
landholders on request.

Important: Always read herbicide label prior to use. **Mixing rates should be adhered to**, applying extra chemical does not enhance the chemicals' ability to control weeds, but could contribute to "herbicide resistance".

Further assistance and information can be obtained by contacting G.C.C. on (02) 6962 3933.

Correspondence contact

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Plan Authorisation

Signed:

Position: *General Manager*

Date Authorised: *28/1/2015*

Alligator weed – *Alternanthera philoxeroides*

Alligator weed is a Class 2 Regionally Prohibited Weed that must be reported to your local council weeds officer or to the NSW Invasive Plants & Animals Enquiry Line 1800 680 244. For more information see www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds

Non-chemical options: Biological control agents are effective in some core coastal wetland situations for the aquatic plant form.

Chemical and Concentration		Rate	Comments
Glyphosate 360 g/L Only products registered for aquatic use		10 mL per 1 L of water	Spot spray. Actively growing from summer through winter, floating form only.
Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg Brush-off®		10 g per 100 L water	Apply in terrestrial situations only. A minimum of 3 years' spraying is required to achieve complete control.
Metsulfuron-methyl 300 g/kg + Aminopyralid 375 g/kg Stinger™		20 g per 100 L of water	Spot spray application, for terrestrial situations only.
PER11737	Imazapyr 150 g/L + Glyphosate 150 g/L Arsenal Express®	500 mL/100 L of water	Spot spray application. Add hasten or Uptake spraying oil at 0.5 L/ha
PER14200	Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg Brush-off®	10 g in 100 L of water	Hand gun application. Refer to permit for critical use comments.
PER14733	Glyphosate 360 g/L Roundup®	10 mL in 1 L of water	For control in urban and residential backyards.
PER14733	Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg Brush-off®	1 g in 10 L of water	For control in urban and residential backyards.
PER14733	Dichlobenil 67.5 g/kg Casoron G®	25–37 g per square metre	Granular application for home garden situations
PER14734	Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg Brush-off®	10 g per 100 L water (to a maximum rate of 600 L/ha of weed surface)	Aquatic areas and terrestrial areas across NSW except for the core areas of Port Stephens Council, Maitland City Council, Penrith City Council and Hawkesbury City Council. Only apply as a spot spray using a hand directed spray. Do not apply more than 3 applications per growing season. See permit for details.

Oregon: Alligator weed is native to South America where it invades river systems, irrigation areas and low lying floodplains; causing millions of dollars damage to agriculture.

The weed was thought to have been introduced into Australia in shipping ballast.

Alligator weed does not set seed in Australia; propagation is by plant segment.

Infestations: will swiftly spread out to totally choke a river, stream, and irrigation area or water body.

Terrestrial: Alligator weed is less visible and usually lies flat, with runners emanating from a central tap root.

Drought: conditions cause the stems to become brittle and break away; leaving the remainder of the root system to re-generate under more suitable conditions.

If you suspect that Alligator weed is present on your property, contact council weeds officers for advice; arrangements will be made for an inspection for positive identification.

Control options: include a combination of herbicide with mechanical or manual excavation. The preferred option is mechanical removal, herbicide treatments can take years to get the desired result.

Inspection & Planning: a site inspection is made to determine the extent of the infestation.

A management plan: is drawn up specifically for that site including: Hygiene practices, exclusion zone, vehicle and machinery cleaning, disposal of weed material, procedures for excavation or herbicide treatment.



Above: Terrestrial Alligator weed spreading out from central tap root. The stems have fine roots intermittently along the underside which take root under favourable conditions.



Above: This young plant had started from a fragment, the stem at this early stage is distinctively pink in colour; leaves are opposite on the stem and each stem segment shows fibrous filaments emerging.



Above: This infestation was located in a paddock on the edge of a highway and was abandoned by the farmer after Alligator weed had totally taken over the farm; making it totally unviable.



Above: A close up view of the infestation left, showing the density and lushness of the weed in a wet environment. White papery ball like flowers can be seen which can be used to help ID the weed.



Above: Mechanical excavation is done to extract Alligator weed root systems. All material is sieved for root particles and fibres, and then sealed up in bags for transportation and incineration.



Above: On the root segment above can be seen numerous nodes, all of which are capable of regenerating the weed. They can remain dormant for 20 years or more, until favourable weather conditions occur.

CAUTION Alligator weed must be reported to the LCA within 24 hrs – Any control work should be undertaken under the direction of council weeds officers